

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05
SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05
SAS-02 SAA-01 /131 W
-----003038 181951Z /12

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2762
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 19208

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, ENRG
SUBJ: DISPOSAL OF NUCLEAR WASTE UNDER U. S.-EGYPTIAN
- COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: CAIRO 17327

1. EMBOFFS MET AUGUST 16 WITH MFA DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AFFAIRS NABIL ELARABY, AT HIS REQUEST, CONCERNING CLARIFICATION OF PROVISIONS ON DISPOSAL OF NUCLEAR WASTE OF U. S.-EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT INITIALED AUGUST 1976. ELARABY ASKED WHETHER AGREEMENT ENVISIONS POSSIBILITY OF UNUSABLE RADIOACTIVE REPROCESSING BY-PRODUCTS, AS CONTRASTED WITH REPROCESSABLE REACTOR FUEL MATERIALS, BEING DISPOSED OF BY GOE IN TERRITORIAL CONFINES OF EGYPT.

2. ELARABY INDICATED THAT ARTICLE EIGHT OF AGREEMENT PRESUMABLY APPLIES, ALTHOUGH HE IS NOT CERTAIN SINCE PHRASE "NUCLEAR WASTE" AS SUCH IS NOT USED. HE FURTHER RAISED QUESTION IN CONTEXT OF FIFTH PARAGRAPH OF COVERING NOTE (ALSO INITIALED) WHICH DISCUSSES STORAGE OF
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"SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL".

3. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT CLARIFICATION OF THIS POINT WOULD BE USEFUL IN ITS CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA ON NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL. (SEE REFTEL. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS, AUSTRIA IS SEEKING AGREEMENT WITH GOE WHICH WOULD PERMIT BURIAL OF SUCH MATERIALS IN

EASTERN DESERT.)

4. COMMENT: EMBOFF HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN APPROACHED ON UNOFFICIAL BASIS AT LOWER LEVEL WITHIN FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH SIMILAR QUESTION, I.E., WHETHER EGYPT WOULD BE ALLOWED TO HANDLE WASTE MATERIAL FROM REACTORS PROVIDED UNDER COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH U. S. IF IT ALSO CONCLUDES NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE ARRANGEMENT WITH AUSTRIA. WE CONFINED OURSELVES AT THAT TIME TO PROVIDING COPY OF INITIALED U.S.-GOE DOCUMENT.

5. REQUEST DEPARTMENT ADVISE EMBASSY OF APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO MFA QUERY. ALTHOUGH NOT SPECIFICALLY RAISED BY ELARABY, DEPARTMENT COMMENT WOULD BE HELPFUL ALSO AS TO EFFECT GOE-AUSTRIA NUCLEAR WASTE ACCORD MIGHT HAVE ON STILL-PENDING U.S. COOPERATION AGREEMENT. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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